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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Olivas, Hector

Serial No: 10/828808

For: Holding Tank Drain Plug

Examiner: Chang Kim

Office Action Dated 10/16/2007

IN THE SPECIFICATIONS

Replace paragraphs 9, 10, 13, 17 and 18 with the following paragraphs:

[0010] FIG. 4 and 4A are alternative embodiments of the present invention.

[0012] First portion (15) further includes axial bore (20) that is defined by an upper end (25) and a lower end (30). An outer wall extends upward from the lower end (30) to upper end (25). Additionally, the outer wall of the upper end (25) is configured and sized to engage the drain of a vehicle such that fluid communication is established between the axial bore and the fluid tank. As shown, upper end (25) is threaded to engage the drain of the tank. Within the outer wall is a plurality of notches (40) forming an opening therein. Each notch has a predetermined length and width to obtain the desired flow of fluid from the tank. Additionally, the wider and longer each notch the greater the flow of fluid from the tank. The notch can have an oval, eclipse, rectangular, or another suitable shape.

[0018] Referring to FIG. 4 and FIG. 4A, there are shown alternative embodiments of device (10). Notch (40) (42) can extend from lower end (30) to upper end (25) forming a gap within the far peripheral edge of bore (20). Bore (20) can still be inserted into the plug of the holding tank.

[0019] In operation, first portion (15) is threadedly engaged into the drain hole of a fluid holding tank (not shown in FIG. 1). Device (10) does not need to be totally disengaged from the holding tank. When a user wishes to drain the fluid, the first portion (15) is disengaged from the drain hole, by using the hand gripping mechanism (80) surrounding the outer wall (70) of the reservoir (60) or by using a wrench to disengage bolt member

(110) as shown in FIG. 3. First portion (15) is disengaged to the desired level required to control the fluid flow through the notches ~~(40)~~ (42). Each notch ~~(40)~~ (42) acts as a valve to control the flow of fluid from the tank. The user disengages first portion (15) from the drain until the desired flow through the notches ~~(40)~~ (42) is achieved.